

2025-2026 ACT

Test Window 1	Test Window 2
<p>Paper (Standard): March 24, 2026</p> <p>Paper (Accommodations): March 24-27, March 30-31, April 1-3, 2026</p> <p>Online (Standard & Accommodations): March 24-27, March 30-31, April 1-3, 2026</p>	<p>Paper (Standard): April 7, 2026</p> <p>Paper (Accommodations): April 7-10, April 13-17, 2026</p> <p>Online (Standard & Accommodations): April 7-10, April 13-17, 2026</p>

ACT – Grades 11 / Cohort 2027 – Overview

- ✓ Test sections and time limits (test sections must be administered in order):
 - ✓ English – 50 items / 35-minute test
 - ✓ Math – 45 items / 50-minute test
 - ✓ Reading – 36 items / 40-minute test
 - ✓ Science – 40 items / 40-minute test
 - ✓ Writing – 1 item / 40-minute test
- ✓ [ACT Enhancements](#) will be in effect for the Spring 2026 test administration, including fewer test items overall and more time per test item.
- ✓ Beginning September 2025, the ACT Composite score will be comprised of the English, Math, and Reading test scores. Students will receive a college-reportable Composite score when taking the state assessment.
- ✓ Science and Writing will be included in Arizona’s state test administration. Science is required for a student to receive a STEM score, and Writing is required for a student to receive an ELA score.
- ✓ Items in the English, Math, Reading, and Science sections are multiple-choice.
- ✓ Students receive one Writing prompt that describes a complex issue and provides three perspectives. Students will write an essay explaining their perspective on the issue.
- ✓ The number of answer choices for Math questions has been reduced from five choices to four choices.
- ✓ The Desmos Graphing Calculator is embedded in the online test.
- ✓ Students are tested based on their cohort in AzEDS, not based on actual grade level, courses completed, or courses enrolled in.
- ✓ Tests are available online (by default) and paper-based (with ADE approval).
- ✓ Test Coordinators will select their ACT test window for each school in PearsonAccess^{next} in **November 2025**.
- ✓ Hard copies of Test Coordinator’s Manuals and Test Administration Manuals will be provided to districts and charters.
- ✓ Schools will have the flexibility to administer Science and Writing on a different day than English, Math, and Reading, if needed. All test units must be administered within the same test window. ACT’s Schedule Flexibility Policy will be provided in **Fall 2025** and must be strictly followed.
 - ✓ English, Math, and Reading must be administered on the same day.
 - ✓ Schools testing online may administer Science and Writing on a subsequent day in the same test window.
 - ✓ Schools testing on paper may administer Science and Writing on the Wednesday following their Tuesday standard-time paper testing.
- ✓ Students complete MyACT prior to testing or up to two days after testing to send ACT scores to up to four colleges or scholarship agencies **for free**.
- ✓ Arizona’s ACT cut scores will remain unchanged.

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Accessibility

- ✓ ACT Accessibility Supports Guide: https://content.act.org/arizona/r/Accessibility_Supports_Guide_for_the_ACT_-_State_and_District_Testing
- ✓ ACT accommodations and support requests must be submitted to ACT for review in ACT's Test Accessibility and Accommodations (TAA) System. TAA opens for requests on **September 8, 2025**.
- ✓ Some accommodations which must be approved by ACT include extended testing time, Text-to-Speech, Speech-to-Text, Braille, Large Print, and Video American Sign Language (VASL).
- ✓ Designated supports are local arrangements that **do not** require ACT approval and should not be submitted in TAA. If a student requires designated supports and accommodations, only submit the accommodations to ACT for review and approval.
- ✓ English learner (EL) supports have been updated for Spring 2026. The following are now considered designated supports and do not require ACT approval if they are locally required. The only TAA submission required this year for ELs is "one and one-half time, single day."
 - ✓ Translated test directions
 - ✓ Small group testing
 - ✓ Bilingual dictionaries
- ✓ New for Spring 2026, each test window will have its own accommodations request deadline to submit any initial or reconsideration requests. The deadlines will be provided in **Fall 2025**.
- ✓ Students with an ACT-approved accommodation for testing over multiple days must complete all testing within the same test window.

Resources

- ✓ Practice Tests: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation/free-act-test-prep/act-online-test-sample-questions.html>
- ✓ PearsonAccess^{next}: <https://testadmin.act.org/>
- ✓ ACT-hosted support website: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/state-and-district-solutions/arizona/the-act.html>
- ✓ Comparison of Legacy and Enhanced ACT Test: <https://www.act.org/content/dam/act/unsecured/documents/ACT-Reporting-Category-Tables-Comparison.pdf>
- ✓ Arizona Alignment Guide, Sample Essays, and Calculator Policy: <https://www.azed.gov/assessment/resources>
- ✓ Access online reporting and TAA at success.act.org.